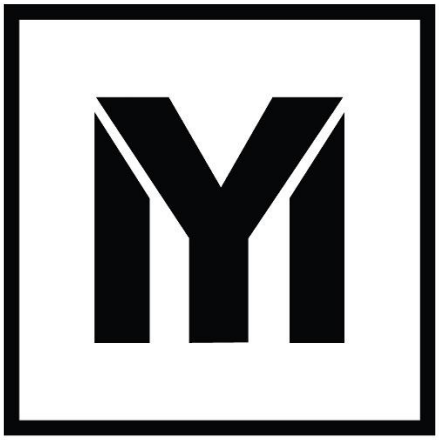
UNSHAKABLE

BIBLE DOCTRINE › 2019

STUDY MATERIAL BY TOPIC



UPCI YOUTH MINISTRIES

1 – THE BIBLE: THE INFALLIBLE WORD OF GOD

1A – God Himself is the Author of the Bible. It is the Word of God. ----------

The Bible is God's message to you. It is the highest authority that man has to govern him in all matters of faith and practice. Both the act of believing and what you believe come from hearing and studying the Word of God. It is not for the church to decide what the Scriptures teach, but rather it is the Scriptures that decide what the church should teach. It is not up to you to accept part of the Word and reject the rest, nor to be a critic of the Bible; instead, the Word will determine whether you are acceptable or not, as your critic and judge. Some erroneously teach that truth and righteousness are relative to conditions and circumstances. However, wrong is still wrong; right is still right. Truth and righteousness are still absolutes, and God's Word is still infallible. You must fully believe and obey it all.

EXODUS 24:12
12 And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them.

DEUTERONOMY 6:6 – 9
6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

PSALMS 19:7 – 10
7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

HEBREWS 4:12
12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

1B – Men wrote the words of the Bible as they were divinely inspired by God. ----------

To write the Bible, God used about forty men over a period of about 1600 years. God moved upon these selected men inspiring them to write His Word accurately and in detail. The phrase, "given by inspiration of God," comes from a Greek word meaning, "God-breathed." The Scriptures are the result of divine breathing, just as human speech is uttered by breathing through one's mouth. In writing the Bible, these holy men became God's vocal chords.

EXODUS 34:27
27 And the LORD said unto Moses, Write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel.

DEUTERONOMY 27:3
3 And thou shalt write upon them all the words of this law, when thou art passed over, that thou mayest go in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, a land that floweth with milk and honey; as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee.

JOSHUA 24:26
26 And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that was by the sanctuary of the LORD.

1 SAMUEL 10:25
25 Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before the LORD. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house.

ISAIAH 30:8
8 Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever:

JEREMIAH 30:1 – 2
1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying, Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book.

LUKE 1:1 – 3
1 Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us,

2 Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word;

3 It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus,

2 TIMOTHY 3:16 – 17
16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

HEBREWS 1:1
1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

2 PETER 1:20 – 21
20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

1C – The Bible is without error. It is the word of salvation and will be true and useful forever. ---------

The Bible is infallible, meaning that it cannot fail or be false to the slightest degree. Every word is true. Every promise will be fulfilled. Every prophecy will come to pass. And it can only be infallible if it is the Word of God. With man's knowledge constantly growing and adapting to new understandings, were the Bible a result of man's knowledge, it would be full of ridiculous ideas that by now would have been proven false. Yet it remains true and unchanged because it is the Word of God. Despite the importance the Bible places on simple words (Hebrews 12:27), the tense of a verb (Luke 20:37), and even a single letter (Galatians 3:16), it holds no error. Because it is pure, it is able to purify and save. The psalmist declared that by the Word a man's way is cleansed; Jesus stated that through the Word we are sanctified; and Paul affirmed that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation.

PSALMS 12:6
6 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

PSALMS 19:8
8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

PSALMS 119:9
9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

PSALMS 119:89
89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

PSALMS 119:105
105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalms 119:130
130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

PROVERBS 30:5
5 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

ISAIAH 40:8
8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

LUKE 21:33
33 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

JOHN 15:3
3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

JOHN 17:17
17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

JOHN 20:30 – 31
30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

ROMANS 1:16
16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

ROMANS 15:4
4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:11
11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

HEBREWS 4:12
12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

1 PETER 1:25
25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

2 PETER 1:19
19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

1D – The Word of God is food for our soul. ----------

Man is both physical and spiritual; and just as your body must have food to be nourished and grow, so your spirit requires the Word of God to be healthy and strong. Jesus Himself quoted man's innate need not only for bread but for the Word of God. It is true that "you are what you eat." You can't eat candy meal after meal, day after day and expect to be healthy. Neither can you allow your spirit to ingest the "junk food" of this world and expect to be strong spiritually. You need to eat daily of the wholesome Word of God.

DEUTERONOMY 8:3
3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

JOB 23:12
12 Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food.

PSALMS 119:103
103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

JEREMIAH 15:16
16 Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

MATTHEW 4:4
4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

1 PETER 2:2
2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

1E – The Word of God should be loved and hidden in our hearts. ----------

It is not enough to be merely a student of the Bible. Knowledge puffeth up, and the letter killeth; but charity edifieth, and the Spirit giveth life. It is not enough to have the Word in your head only. You must approach it with a heart-felt passion that saturates you from the inner man outward. In the last days, God will send a strong delusion upon all who do not receive a love of the truth (II Thessalonians 2:10-11). You will be saved from believing a lie, not simply by *knowing* the truth, but by *loving* the truth.

JOSHUA 1:8
8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

PSALMS 37:31
31 The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

PSALMS 40:8
8 I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

PSALMS 119:11
11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

PSALMS 119:16
16 I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.

PSALMS 119:72
72 The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.

PSALMS 119:97
97 O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.

PSALMS 119:140
140 Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.

COLOSSIANS 3:16
16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

HEBREWS 8:10
10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

2 – ONE GOD: THE MIGHTY GOD IN CHRIST

2A – How many Gods exist? ----------

Why is there so much confusion about the nature (and number) of God? Paul's words to the church at Colossae provide as succinct an answer as any: "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Paul then follows this warning with the reason for it: "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." When men trust more in their own philosophizing and the empty self-delusion that results; when they rely more upon their own tradition and ceremonialism, than the inspired, infallible scriptures of the Word of God, the result is that even the most straightforward and fundamental fact about God—that He is one, unalterably and indivisibly one—can be lost.

DEUTERONOMY 4:35
35 Unto thee it was showed, that thou mightest know that the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him.

DEUTERONOMY 4:39
39 Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.

DEUTERONOMY 6:4
4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

DEUTERONOMY 32:39
39 See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.

PSALMS 86:10
10 For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone.

ISAIAH 42:8
8 I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

ISAIAH 43:10 – 11
10 Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.

11 I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour.

ISAIAH 44:6
6 Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.

ISAIAH 45:5 – 6
5 I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me:

6 That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else.

ISAIAH 45:18
18 For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.

ISAIAH 45:21 – 22
21 Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me.

22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

ISAIAH 46:9
9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,

MARK 12:29
29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

1 CORINTHIANS 8:4
4 As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one.

EPHESIANS 4:5 – 6
5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

1 TIMOTHY 2:5
5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

JAMES 2:19
19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

REVELATION 1:8
8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

2B – God is a Spirit. ----------

Ancient civilizations conveniently fashioned their gods in the images of themselves. God commanded Israel never to do so (Exodus 20:4). He is a Spirit and is limitless in every sense of the word. Any statue or image to be worshipped as God does disservice to His scope and being. Any references to His hands, eyes, ears, etc. are simply figures of speech to help comprehend the incomprehensible.

1 KINGS 8:27
27 But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?

JOHN 4:24
24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

ACTS 17:24 – 25
24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

25 Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17
17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

1 TIMOTHY 1:17
17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

2C – The one mighty God was manifest in the flesh as Jesus Christ, both man and God, the fullness of the Godhead dwelling in Him. ----------

The Scriptures do not teach that one-third of God was manifest in the flesh but that God Himself and the entire quality of His being dwelt in a physical body—the person of Jesus Christ. When you get to heaven, all of God that you and everyone else will ever see for all eternity will be Jesus. While God, in Christ Jesus, became something he had never before been—a man—He never ceased to be all He had ever been—the great I AM.

ISAIAH 9:6
6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

MATTHEW 1:20 – 23
20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

JOHN 1:1
1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

JOHN 1:14
14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

JOHN 1:18
18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

JOHN 8:57 – 58
57 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham?

58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

JOHN 10:30
30 I and my Father are one.

JOHN 12:45
45 And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me.

JOHN 14:8 – 10
8 Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us.

9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?

10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

ROMANS 5:14
14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:4
4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:19
19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

PHILIPPIANS 2:5 – 8
5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

COLOSSIANS 1:15
15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

COLOSSIANS 1:19
19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;

COLOSSIANS 2:9
9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

1 TIMOTHY 3:16
16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

TITUS 2:13
13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

2D – Jesus is the one name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. ----------

Simple logic tells us that if A = B and B = C, then A = C. All three values are the same, despite their representation as A, B, and C, respectively. Jesus, as the Son (Matthew 1:21), said that He had come in His Father's name (John 5:43) and that the Holy Ghost would come in His name (John 14:26). So if Jesus = Son and Jesus = Father and Jesus = Holy Ghost, then Son = Father = Holy Ghost. All three are the same despite different manifestations. To put it as simply as possible, Jesus = Jesus = Jesus.

ZECHARIAH 14:9
9 And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

MATTHEW 1:21
21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

MATTHEW 28:19
19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

JOHN 5:43
43 I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.

JOHN 14:17 – 18
17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

JOHN 14:26
26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

ACTS 4:12
12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

ACTS 7:59
59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

ACTS 9:5
5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

3 – SIN AND SALVATION

3A – What is sin? ----------

Sin creates separation from God and results in both a physical and a spiritual death for which you were not created. Scripture employs several concepts to fully describe sin: to "pass over," knowingly going beyond assigned limits to trespass boundaries and break commands (Hosea 6:7); to "break away," lawlessly denying God's right to command (I Timothy 1:9); to "miss the mark," as an archer failing to hit his target (Romans 3:23). Just as Adam sinned willfully and was cast out of the garden, just as sheep without a shepherd wander astray, just as life comes up short by continually missing the mark, sin is an abnormal state that God never intended for you.

PROVERBS 21:4
4 An high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin.

PROVERBS 24:9
9 The thought of foolishness is sin: and the scorner is an abomination to men.

GALATIANS 5:19 – 21
19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

JAMES 4:17
17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

1 JOHN 3:4
4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

3B – Man is a sinner. ----------

Just as physical genes transfer physical traits from one generation to the next, so spiritual genes have transferred the trait of sin from Adam and Eve, our original parents, to every generation that has followed them. Sin is no surface problem; it is a spiritually genetic defect. The heart of man is deceitful and desperately wicked (Jeremiah 17:9), his mind cannot understand spiritual things (I Corinthians 2:14), his conscience is dull and insensitive (Ephesians 4:19, Titus 1:15), his will cannot do good, even if he desires to (Romans 7:19), and his best efforts are but filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6).

PSALMS 51:5
5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

PSALMS 53:3
3 Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

ISAIAH 53:6
6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

ISAIAH 64:6
6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

JEREMIAH 17:9
9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

ROMANS 3:10 – 12
10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

ROMANS 3:23
23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

ROMANS 5:12
12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

ROMANS 5:19
19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

ROMANS 6:23
23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

JAMES 1:14 – 15
14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

1 JOHN 1:8
8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

3C – Jesus Christ provides salvation. ----------

Although He is the Master Teacher, the Great Physician, the Lion of Judah, the Lily of the Valley and so much more, Jesus' primary mission is as Redeemer and Savior. As the Light, it is only by Him that you are no longer in darkness (John 12:46). As the Door, it is only by Him you shall enter and be saved (John 10:9). As the Vine, it is only in Him you can abide, for without Him, you can do nothing (John 15:5). As the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, it is only by His precious blood that you are redeemed (I Peter 1:18-20). As the Way, the Truth, and the Life, salvation, by whatever metaphor, is only by Jesus Christ.

ISAIAH 12:2
2 Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

ISAIAH 53:2 – 7
2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

LUKE 2:11
11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

LUKE 19:10
10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

JOHN 1:29
29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

JOHN 3:14 – 17
14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

JOHN 10:11
11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

JOHN 15:13
13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

ROMANS 5:6
6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

ROMANS 6:23
23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:3
3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

1 TIMOTHY 1:15
15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

HEBREWS 2:9
9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

HEBREWS 9:28
28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

1 PETER 2:24
24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

1 PETER 3:18
18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

REVELATION 5:9
9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

3D – The blood of a sinless sacrifice atoned for our sins. ----------

Sin took life from Adam and Eve. The only acceptable recourse for life taken is life given. As life is derived from blood (Leviticus 17:11), the first animals were slain to cover the sin of Adam and Eve. Cain's sacrifice of vegetables was rejected because it offered no blood, no life, in restitution for his sin. And so for centuries the blood of countless animals was spilt to cover (atone) sin, though it was not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away (remit) sin (Hebrews 10:4). The remission of sins to obtain eternal redemption, required a sacrifice unlike any ever offered, unlike any mankind could offer: a perfect and sinless sacrifice, which only God Himself could become. As He who knew no sin, Jesus Christ was once offered for all sin, for all mankind, for all time.

EXODUS 12:13
13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

LEVITICUS 17:11
11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

MATTHEW 26:28
28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

ROMANS 5:9
9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

HEBREWS 9:14
14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

HEBREWS 9:22
22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

1 PETER 1:18 – 19
18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

1 JOHN 1:7
7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

3E – Obedience is essential to salvation. ----------

Jesus' first recorded words were that He *must* be about His Father's business (Luke 2:49). Years before it would even begin, His earthly ministry was already predicated upon obedience. In fact, He revealed that it was obedience that was His life's motivating and sustaining factor when he told his disciples, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work" (John 4:34). Even in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus prayed, "Not my will, but thine, be done" (Luke 22:42). If Jesus was not exempt from obedience to obtain salvation for mankind, neither are you exempt from obedience in order to share in it.

1 SAMUEL 15:22
22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

JOHN 8:31
31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

ACTS 5:32
32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

ROMANS 6:16
16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

JAMES 1:25
25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

REVELATION 22:14
14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

3F – Saving faith and belief. ----------

Faith is more than a mental exercise. If just believing was all that was necessary for salvation, the devil himself would be saved (James 2:19). Faith is inherently an action word. Person after person named in Hebrews 11 demonstrated their faith by their action, for there is no true faith without action. Obedience is the litmus test of your faith, not your feelings. Feelings should follow faith, not the other way around. "Do you believe?" is always more accurately asked, "Do you obey?" The answer to the first question is safely limited to your own evaluation and interpretation of your thoughts and beliefs, just as today's world likes it. The answer to the second question, however—your actions for all to see—is under no such limitation. Faith that obeys is the only faith that saves.

MARK 16:16
16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

JOHN 7:38
38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

ACTS 16:31
31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

ROMANS 10:9 – 13
9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.

13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

EPHESIANS 2:8
8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

HEBREWS 11:6
6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

3G – Repentance is essential to salvation. ----------

The call to repent is not an invitation, it is a command; and those who refuse are guilty of further disobedience before God. Repentance involves four vital elements: 1) you must confess that you are a sinner, alone responsible for your sins; 2) you must determine to forsake sin; 3) you must turn to God as the only hope of your salvation; and, 4) you must be willing to make restitution to the degree possible for wrongs against others. Godly sorrow is more than feeling badly—Judas Iscariot felt remorse, but hung himself rather than repent. Godly sorrow brings a carefulness not to sin, an indignation against sin, a desire to restore what sin has taken, and a longing to save others from the present and eternal effects of sin. Repentance is a prerequisite to receiving anything from God. Just as the altar of sacrifice in the Old Testament tabernacle was the first station on the path into the presence of the Lord, so your drawing near to God must always begin with repentance.

2 CHRONICLES 7:14
14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

PSALMS 34:18
18 The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

ISAIAH 55:7
7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

EZEKIEL 18:21
21 But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

LUKE 13:3
3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

LUKE 24:47
47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

ACTS 2:38
38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

ACTS 3:19
19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

ACTS 17:30
30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

2 CORINTHIANS 7:10
10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

2 PETER 3:9
9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

3H – Water baptism is essential to salvation. ----------

The Red Sea marked the boundary for the children of Israel between their future in God's promised land and their past slavery in Egypt. Crossing obediently and miraculously on dry land, however, was not yet enough to ensure their deliverance. It was not until Pharaoh's army, and the many years of bondage it represented, were washed away by the collapsing walls of water were the Israelites truly free from their oppressors. Paul wrote that they had been "baptized…in the cloud and in the sea" (I Corinthians 10:2), paralleling Jesus' words that a man cannot enter the kingdom of God, except he be born of water and of the Spirit (John 3:5).

MARK 16:16
16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

JOHN 3:3 – 5
3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

ACTS 2:38
38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

1 PETER 3:20 – 21
20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

3H1 – Water baptism should be performed in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. ----------

Right now, take a piece of paper and before going any further, write on it the name of your father or mother or guardian, then come back and read on…Done? I wrote, "David," as that is my father's name; and you, I'm sure, wrote the first name of the father, mother, or guardian in your life. What you did *not* write was "the name of my father or mother or guardian" because you understood that those literal words held no value compared to the person's actual name. The apostles understood this same fact in the instruction of Jesus to baptize in the "name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" when they in turn only ever baptized in Jesus' name.

MATTHEW 28:19
19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

ACTS 2:38
38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

ACTS 4:12
12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

ACTS 8:12
12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

ACTS 8:14 – 16
14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:

16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

ACTS 10:47 – 48
47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

ACTS 19:1 – 5
1 And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

ACTS 22:16
16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

ROMANS 6:3 – 4
3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

GALATIANS 3:27
27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

3H2 – Water baptism should be performed by immersion. ----------

The word English word *baptism* is derived from the Greek New Testament word *baptizo*, a term in the dyers' trade meaning "to dip." Just as dyers dipped cloth in dye to ensure every fiber was colored, so being baptized into Christ is to fully assume the characteristics of your Savior. From John the Baptist baptizing Jesus to Philip baptizing the Ethiopian eunuch, there is no scriptural evidence to suggest any method of water baptism other than by full immersion.

Matthew 3:16
16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

JOHN 3:23
23 And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.

ACTS 8:35 – 39
35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

ROMANS 6:4
4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

3I – The baptism of the Holy Ghost is essential to salvation. ----------

Encountering disciples of John at Ephesus and having them re-baptized in Jesus' name was not sufficient for Paul. He then laid his hands on them and they received the Holy Ghost (Acts 19:7), once again confirming Peter's day of Pentecost words, "ye *shall* receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38). Paul would later write in Romans that not only is it by the Spirit's witness that we are the children of God (Romans 8:16), but without the Spirit we are none of His (Romans 8:9). Jesus Himself told Nicodemus that without being born again of the Spirit you cannot enter into the kingdom of God (John 3:6). The Holy Ghost is not an optional spiritual accessory; it is essential to your ultimate salvation.

EZEKIEL 36:26 – 27
26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

JOEL 2:28 – 29
28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

ZECHARIAH 4:6
6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

MATTHEW 3:11
11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

LUKE 11:13
13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

LUKE 24:49
49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

JOHN 3:7 – 8
7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

JOHN 7:37 – 39
37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

JOHN 14:16 – 18
16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

ACTS 1:4 – 5
4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

ACTS 2:16 – 18
16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

ACTS 2:37 – 39
37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

ACTS 8:14 – 17
14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:

16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

17 Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

ACTS 10:44 – 47
44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

ACTS 11:16 – 18
16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.

17 Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?

18 When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

ACTS 19:1 – 6
1 And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

ROMANS 8:9 – 11
9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

3I1 – Speaking in tongues is the initial, outward evidence of the infilling of the Holy Ghost. ----------

James described the tongue as the most unruly member of the body and untamable (James 3:8). He likened it to a bit in a horse's bridle and the rudder on a ship (James 3:3-4): although it is small, it can determine your direction. If your tongue can be brought under submission, then your whole body will follow. It was with this innate understanding that God chose speaking in other tongues as the sign of full surrender in the moment that the Holy Ghost is received. Every book of Acts account—in Jerusalem (ch. 2), in Samaria (ch. 8), in Caesarea (ch. 10), in Ephesus (ch. 19)—includes obvious, outward evidence of the infilling of the Holy Ghost. Just as the Jews who came with Peter to Cornelius' house knew that the Gentiles had received the Holy Ghost because "they heard them speak with tongues" (Acts 10:46), so you today can be assured that your experience is the same as the apostolic church of the first century when you speak with other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance.

ISAIAH 28:11 – 12
11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

12 To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

MARK 16:17
17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

ACTS 2:1 – 11
1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

7 And they were all amazed and marveled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?

8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,

11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

ACTS 2:33
33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

ACTS 10:44 – 46
44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

ACTS 19:6
6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

3I2 – The benefits of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. ----------

God never intended for your Holy Ghost experience to be a "one and done" event. The gift of God comes with a myriad of blessings and benefits to help you live a life that overcomes sin, Satan, and yourself. In addition to the fruit of the Spirit to be manifested in your life, and the gifts of the Spirit meant to edify yourself and the church, the Holy Ghost also adopts (Romans 8:15), teaches (John 14:26, 16:3), refreshes (Acts 3:19), empowers (Acts 1:8), emboldens (Acts 4:31-33), intercedes (Romans 8:26-27), seals (Ephesians 1:13-14), frees (II Corinthians 3:17), and resurrects (Romans 8:11).

ISAIAH 28:11 – 12
11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

12 To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

LUKE 12:12
12 For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

JOHN 6:63
63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

JOHN 14:26
26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

JOHN 16:13
13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come.

ACTS 1:8
8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

ACTS 4:31 – 33
31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

ROMANS 5:5
5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

ROMANS 8:11 – 17
11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

ROMANS 8:26 – 27
26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:13
13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:6
6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17
17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

GALATIANS 4:6
6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

EPHESIANS 1:13 – 14
13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

4 – CHRISTIAN LIVING

4A – After the new birth experience, "babes in Christ" grow by exercising Christian disciplines.

4A1 – Prayer is a daily essential of our walk with God. ----------

Every mighty move of God, whether individually or collectively, from biblical times to today, has been preceded by penitent and hungering prayer. Revival happens where prayer is a priority. It is not something to be relegated to the pastor, elders, or "prayer warriors" of your church. Whatever you do, do not neglect your personal daily prayer and devotion with God. Eliminate the verbiage and clichés that are repetitious and lack true meaning. Talk to God openly from your heart. Let your conversation with Him be fresh, spontaneous, honest, and thankful. Prayer is an attitude as well as an activity.

1 CHRONICLES 16:11
11 Seek the LORD and his strength,
seek his face continually.

2 CHRONICLES 7:14
14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

PSALMS 91:15
15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

ISAIAH 56:7
7 Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.

JEREMIAH 29:13
13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

MATTHEW 6:5 – 13
5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

MATTHEW 7:7
7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

MATTHEW 18:19
19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

MATTHEW 26:41
41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

LUKE 18:1
1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

JOHN 16:24
24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

ACTS 4:31
31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

EPHESIANS 6:18
18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

PHILIPPIANS 4:6
6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:17
17 Pray without ceasing.

1 TIMOTHY 2:8
8 I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

JAMES 5:13 – 18
13 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

17 Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

4A2 – Fasting is an important practice in our Christian life. ----------

It is God's expectation that you fast. Jesus said, "*when* ye fast," not, "*if* ye fast." Fasting is not about changing God—it is not a hunger strike to force God's hand—it is about changing you. Fasting denies your flesh of one of its most basic needs, food, so your dependence upon God and His spiritual meat may grow (John 4:32). Greater dependence upon Him means greater preeminence for Him. Fasting is never to be used to impress others with your spirituality, but to quiet your flesh that you might hear from God more clearly.

JOEL 1:14
14 Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the LORD,

JOEL 2:12
12 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

MATTHEW 6:16 – 18
16 Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

17 But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face;

18 That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

MATTHEW 17:21
21 Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

ACTS 13:2
2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

ACTS 14:23
23 And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

4A3 – We must not be ignorant of the Scriptures. Bible study is vital to spiritual growth and relationship with God. ----------

To defeat Satan during His time of temptation in the wilderness, Jesus Himself quoted scripture He had undoubtedly learned as a young person. In your own fight against the devil, you can only wield the sword of the Spirit to the degree that you know and live the Word of God. Johann Bengel is quoted as saying, "Apply thyself wholly to the Scriptures, and apply the Scriptures wholly to thyself." The Bible is a mirror in which not only do you see yourself as you are now (James 1:23-24), but by continuing to look into it more deeply and openly, you will see yourself changed from glory to glory to look more and more like Jesus (II Corinthians 3:18).

DEUTERONOMY 17:19
19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:

PSALMS 119:11
11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

ISAIAH 34:16
16 Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them.

HOSEA 4:6
6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

MATTHEW 4:4
4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

MATTHEW 22:29
29 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.

JOHN 5:39
39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

2 TIMOTHY 2:15
15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

4A4 – We are commanded to worship and praise the Lord. ----------

If you have breath, then you qualify to worship and praise the Lord. In fact, not only do you qualify, but you are commanded to. His greatness demands praise; His holy perfection requires worship. While worship may take personal and even private forms, praise by its very nature is to be done outwardly and openly, not *for* others, but to draw others' attention toward your God. You cannot truly worship that which you do not know. If you are not compelled to worship, it may well be because you do not know God as well as you should. To know Him is to worship and praise Him, because He is great, He is holy, He is wonderful, and He is worthy!

1 CHRONICLES 15:28
28 Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, and with sound of the cornet, and with trumpets, and with cymbals, making a noise with psalteries and harps.

1 CHRONICLES 16:29
29 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

PSALMS 9:11
11 Sing praises to the LORD, which dwelleth in Zion: declare among the people his doings.

PSALMS 22:3
3 But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

PSALMS 33:2
2 Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.

PSALMS 47:1
1 O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.

PSALMS 95:1 – 2
1 O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

PSALMS 95:6
6 O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

PSALMS 100:4
4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

PSALMS 150:1 – 6
1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.

3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

4 Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

5 Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

6 Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

JOHN 4:23 – 24
23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

EPHESIANS 5:18 – 19
18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

PHILIPPIANS 2:9 – 11
9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

HEBREWS 13:15
15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

1 PETER 2:9
9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;

4A5 – Regular church attendance is necessary and spiritually enriching. ----------

It is impossible to miss church and not feel the effects of it in your spirit. One of the crucial reasons we come together is to edify (build up) the body of Christ, the church. If you are not there to help edify others, you will fail to be edified yourself. David sang of how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity (Psalm 133) because agreement in the church brings anointing from the top of the head to the sole of the feet, from the senior-most pastor to the newest of converts. It was under just such conditions of agreement and togetherness that the Holy Ghost fell as the charter members of the church were "with one accord in one place" (Acts 2:1).

1 Chronicles 29:3
3 Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine own proper good, of gold and silver, which I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house.

Psalms 23:6
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Psalms 27:4
4 One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

Psalms 84:4
4 Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah.

Psalms 84:10
10 For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Psalms 122:1
1 I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.

Luke 4:16
16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

Hebrews 10:24 – 25
24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

4A6 – Sharing God's goodness in your own life will lead others to the Lord. ----------

No matter how good your intentions or how exhaustive your efforts, you cannot save anyone. There is only one Savior and you ain't Him. Thank God then that you are not called to save, but to share, witness, testify, and herald that God has saved you. You are, as Moses was in leading the Israelites out of Egypt, an instrument to be used by the true Deliverer. If you obediently respond to the call to lead the lost out of the world—a call that goes out to everyone who has been saved—you too can count on God's presence, power, and plan just as Moses did.

Exodus 4:12
12 Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

Psalms 66:16
16 Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.

Isaiah 43:10
10 Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.

Jeremiah 20:9
9 Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.

Acts 1:8
8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 4:20
20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

1 Corinthians 2:13
13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

2 Timothy 1:8
8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

1 Peter 3:15
15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

4B – Christ-likeness is exhibited in the life of maturing believers.
4B1 – Christian character and attitudes are developed. ----------

Having been born again, God doesn't intend for you to barely make it into heaven by the skin of your teeth, or to put life in neutral and hope to coast through the pearly gates. He has made provision for you to live life "more abundantly" (John 10:10) as an overcomer and conqueror. Everything you need for growth and maturity is found in Jesus Christ and His Word.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:11
11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

EPHESIANS 4:11 – 16
11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

1 PETER 2:1 – 3
1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

2 PETER 1:4 – 9
4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

2 PETER 3:18
18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

4B2 – The fruit of the Spirit is evident in the Spirit-filled life. ----------

God created every tree to bring forth fruit "after his kind" (Genesis 1:11) through the seed each fruit contains. As branches of the "true vine" (John 15:1-6), you are no different. The fruit of the Spirit is to be manifested in your life, making you more like Jesus and attracting others to "taste and see" (Psalm 34:8) so that the Word of God might be sown in their lives.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4 – 8
4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

GALATIANS 5:22 – 23
22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

EPHESIANS 5:8 – 10
8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

9 (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)

10 Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

PHILIPPIANS 1:9 – 11
9 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;

10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;

11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

4B3 – The gifts of the Spirit are to be used by individuals in the church. ----------

The gifts of the Spirit are available to, and to be used by, all believers, not just your pastor or elders. They flow from God's grace and their use should be motivated by love. As such, they do not place you on a higher spiritual plane than other believers. The gifts of the Spirit show forth the glory of God; you are merely a willing channel through which God may bless His church. While Paul does encourage to earnestly desire the "best gifts" (I Corinthians 12:31), you must always be God-conscience over being gift-conscience. As you dedicate and yield yourself to Him, His Spirit will flow through you as the need requires.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4 – 11
4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.

6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

1 CORINTHIANS 14:1 – 5
1 Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.

2 For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

3 But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

5 I would that ye all spake with tongues but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

1 CORINTHIANS 14:26 – 28
26 How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.

27 If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret.

28 But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.

1 CORINTHIANS 14:33
33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

1 CORINTHIANS 14:39 – 40
39 Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues.

40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

CONGRATULATIONS, YOU HAVE LEARNED ALL THE MATERIAL COVERED BY THE INTEMEDIATE DIVISION!

4C – Holiness should be manifested in the life of the believer.
4C1 – Because God is holy, we are to be holy. ----------

Holiness is the core attribute of God from which all other attributes flow. God is love because He is holy. God is peace because He is holy. God is patient and gracious because He is holy. The basis, pattern, and standard of all holiness is the holiness of God Himself. You and I could never follow such a pattern or attain to such a standard on our own, which is why God "made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (II Corinthians 5:21). By your faith in the work of Christ on Calvary, you may be "found in him," not having your own righteousness, but "the righteousness which is of God" (Philippians 3:9). God will never require you to be that which He will not enable you to be.

LEVITICUS 11:45
45 For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.

LEVITICUS 20:26
26 And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.

PSALMS 5:4
4 For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee.

PSALMS 29:2
2 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

PSALMS 145:17
17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.

ISAIAH 35:8
8 And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

MATTHEW 5:8
8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

2 CORINTHIANS 7:1
1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

EPHESIANS 4:22 – 24
22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

EPHESIANS 5:25 – 27
25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

1 THESSALONIANS 3:12 – 13
12 And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:

13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

HEBREWS 12:14 – 15
14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

1 PETER 2:9
9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;

2Peter 3:11
11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

1 JOHN 1:5
5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

REVELATION 21:27
27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

4C2 – We are separated for God and from the world. ----------

Just as you can't have momentum without direction, so distinction without purpose is of no value. You are called to be separate *from* the world so that you might be separate *for* God; and you cannot be separate *for* God without being separate *from* the world. Peter wasn't name-calling when he labeled you "peculiar" (I Peter 2:9). He meant that you are God's unique, purchased possession, no longer your own, but distinctly His. Jesus Christ valued you so highly that He sacrificed Himself to buy you back from sin and make you His own. It is His purpose then that your life now glorify God and show forth His praises.

EXODUS 23:2
2 Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil; neither shalt thou speak in a cause to decline after many to wrest judgment:

DEUTERONOMY 12:30
30 Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before thee; and that thou enquire not after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? even so will I do likewise.

PSALMS 19:14
14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

PSALMS 101:3
3 I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.

PROVERBS 1:10
10 My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

PROVERBS 24:1
1 Be not thou envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them.

ACTS 2:40
40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

ROMANS 12:1 – 2
1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:16 – 17
16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:9 – 11
9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:15 – 20
15 Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid.

16 What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.

17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 CORINTHIANS 7:31
31 And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:33
33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

2 CORINTHIANS 6:14 – 17
14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.

EPHESIANS 4:29 – 32
29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

EPHESIANS 5:11
11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

COLOSSIANS 3:2
2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

COLOSSIANS 3:8
8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

2 TIMOTHY 2:4
4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

TITUS 2:11 – 12
11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

HEBREWS 11:24 – 25
24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

JAMES 4:4
4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

1 JOHN 2:15
15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

REVELATION 21:8
8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

4C3 – Our apparel and adornment should glorify God and reflect Christ in us. ----------

Holiness should never be just a doctrine to which you adhere outwardly because "that's what my pastor teaches," or "that's what my church believes." Holiness is an attitude of the heart that desires to be just like God, whether that means being unlike the world around you or even unlike other young people in your own youth group. That old Sunday school song, "I've got something on the inside, that's showing on the outside…," remains as true today as when it was first sung. Genuine inner holiness will always be manifested outwardly, not only by how you look and dress, but also by your behavior and relationships.

DEUTERONOMY 22:5
5 The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.

1 CORINTHIANS 11:3 – 10
3 But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

4 Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head.

5 But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven.

6 For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered.

7 For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man.

8 For the man is not of the woman: but the woman of the man.

9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.

10 For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels.

1 CORINTHIANS 11:13 – 16
13 Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?

14 Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?

15 But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.

16 But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God.

1 TIMOTHY 2:8 – 10
8 I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

9 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;

10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.

1 PETER 3:3 – 5
3 Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;

4 But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:

4D – God calls us to be good stewards of His blessings.
4D1 – Our tithes (the first 10%) belong to God. ----------

Tithes are that which you owe God, and failure to pay what you owe makes you a thief (Malachi 3:8). All you have, and all you will ever have, is God's already. It is He who "giveth thee power to get wealth" (Deuteronomy 8:18). God simply requires that you be a good steward of the 90% He allows you to keep. Tithing does require faith, and God asks that you prove Him by worshipfully trusting Him. Your tithes are not paid to your pastor, but to God in support of those who give themselves full time to the work of His kingdom.

GENESIS 14:20
20 And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

GENESIS 28:22
22 And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.

LEVITICUS 27:30
30 And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's: it is holy unto the LORD.

NUMBERS 18:21
21 And, behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance, for their service which they serve, even the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.

MALACHI 3:8 – 10
8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

MATTHEW 23:23
23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

1 CORINTHIANS 4:2
2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:9
9 For it is written in the law of Moses, thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen?

1 CORINTHIANS 9:13 – 14
13 Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar?

14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

4D2 – Offerings are the gifts we give God over and above our tithes. ----------

God will take money from a grouch, but He loves a cheerful giver. Why would you not want to please God as often as you could? Faithfully give as you have been blessed, not irresponsibly or haphazardly, and never without first seeking God's direction in your giving. It is His money after all, and you are simply its steward. It is a proven biblical principle that to the degree you give, it shall be given back to you (Luke 6:38).

EXODUS 25:2
2 Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.

EXODUS 36:5
5 And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make.

DEUTERONOMY 16:17
17 Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee.

LUKE 21:1 – 4
1 And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury.

2 And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites.

3 And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all:

4 For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.

ACTS 11:29
29 Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea:

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6 – 7
6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

4E – Honor and submission are to be given to God-ordained authority. ----------

Leadership in the church will always be prone to attack because Satan knows that to undermine the leadership is to compromise the effectiveness of the church. Speak positively to others about your pastor and prayerfully to God for him, and you will support the very covering God has ordained to protect you. Even when David knew Saul had been rejected by God, he insisted that he would not touch God's anointed or do him any harm (I Chronicles 16:22). How much more care and esteem should you give the godly spiritual authorities in your life? It is the anointing of God above any charisma, speaking ability, or management style that qualifies your pastor to be your pastor.

1 Corinthians 12:28
28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

Ephesians 2:19 – 22
19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

Ephesians 5:21
21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

1 Thessalonians 5:12 – 13
12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

1 Timothy 5:17
17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

Hebrews 13:7
7 Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

Hebrews 13:17
17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

Congratulations, you have learned all the material covered by the Experienced Division!